

## **DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY**

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IN REPLY REFER TO

DDC J-1E

APR 3 0 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DDC EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

Every year since 1979, the President has proclaimed a national observance in May to celebrate the contributions and achievements of Asian-Pacific Americans. The theme for this year's Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month celebration is "Asian-Pacific Americans: Emerging Together."

The term "Asian-Pacific American" refers to a vast array of ethnic groups from at least 29 different countries, each with a unique historical and cultural heritage of its own. The Census Bureau expects the Asian-Pacific American population to emerge as the fastest growing segment of our population. Census Bureau statistics show that in 1997 there were 10.0 million Asian-Pacific Americans. That number is projected to increase to 15.3 million by 2010, and 19.7 million by 2020.

The contributions of Asian-Pacific Americans to public and private life are dynamic and growing. Asian-Pacific Americans are represented in all fields of endeavor to include music, sports, sciences, business, government and in the military.

During the month of May, I encourage each of you to consider the contributions made by Americans of Asian-Pacific descent. I ask you to join them in celebrating their rich and unique combination of heritages.

JAMES H. PILLSBURY Brigadier General, USA

Commander